10380 Wilshire Blvd
Los Angeles, Cal. 90024
July 16, 1973

Dear Harold,

Good hearing from you . And don't want to renew our long standing disagreement but look what I saw in the paper the other day. The original source to me of this was Striso, and if it makes matters worse, he is the one who told me Garrison would be in Washington - and added to this, at the time I was working for Ramparts and Striso's ms. got distributed, Garrison was one of the recipients and remarked that much of it really checked out.

I don't understand the legal machinations of my case hardly at all. I checked with a friend's son who is a lawyer and who highly recommended mine and who agreed with him, too. Said that if Ramparts sold the files with a percentage of the ensuing book and picture I could collect a percentage of that. I am not clear on my lawyer's approach to Columbia pictures, but I do know he would prefer not to sue them. I think they are or have been a client of his. I don't know. I do know he's been trying to get me to work as a consultant on the movie so he doesn't have to sue them and I know it all sounds fishy, but the truth is, it's purely coincidence that the screen writer is a client of his. And the other truth is, I'm in no position to be choosy, since I haven't money to lay out to sue and he's willing to do it. He can back out, but he hasn't. In fact, at the moment he's busy reading the book when he can. And - Striso has offered to join forces with me because he thinks jointly we stand a better chance! I politely told him my lawyer only wants to represent me. Striso says he has an in to Fensterwald whom he will try to get to represent him in a law suit. God, what a mess.

Meanwhile, back at the typewriter, you've inspired confidence in this fading lily, and I'm writing a first chapter which I shall submit to Peter Mayer of Avon who told me last December to do it - only he wasn't interested in it from my point of view. Wanted the story the way it happened which would have made no sense since a book was already on the way. It mentions Irma's plight in jail by the way (she comes up like virgin mary!) - but I have another angle. What happened to Vidal! I still can tell it from first perso n woman reporter as you suggested - and thanks for the push. I have so many family problems I've lost sight of the fact I'm supposed to be a writer. Some day will tell you. It's easy to lose your perspective and get lost in insulting mundane nusances.

I really don't like L. A. and will hang around until the end of the year because other than the law suit I've connected with

a producer who is looking over a science-fiction short story I did - and it occurs to me the Kaplan movie could have a sequel on what happened to Vidal which I shall present to him soon. While I'm here I might at least try. That alone is a satisfaction. Maybe it sounds mad, but I would like to live in New York if there is no reason to stay here. I need the stimulation - bad and good. The worst thing that can happen to me is peace and quiet - it's like being dead and knowing it!

Keep in touch and best of luck with your projects.

Best to you and Lil.

Pearl

~~Burnsburg~~ 4/10/76

Dear Pearl,

Intermittently I'd wondered about you. It was som long since you said you were going back to Mexico.

There is an ambiguity following reference to your children, "and their mother is waiting for something exciting to happen." If it is to the mother, can t be too soon. If to the children, it can happen too soon. If to Mexico and the rest of the world, let's hope not.

The apathy is not restricted to there and it is not a good sign.

I can t begin to update you because that would take several books.

Last April-May I had what was diagnosed as pneumonia and then that with pleurisy. I threw it well and fast but it was followed by, whether or not causative in, what was a very heavy phlebitis before the doctor paid attention. By then, as he has not yet told me, I'd lost the entire main vein in the leg leg and had less but also permanent damage in the right one.

However, I get along pretty well, if with minor discomforts and some limitations, the current ones including the extra care required by anti-coagulents. That is to end in five days. Five days after that I won't have to worry as much about a cut. I bruise very easily now and cut my hands enough to bleed without even feeling it when it happens. Twice yesterday but these are quite minor.

It has not prevented me from doing my think. While I try to avoid it I put in a 21-plus hour day yesterday, travel when and where I must (only no longer drive to Washington and move around when I fly and use trains and bus), make speeches and file suits. I have three current ones in federal court and the pressures plus what I get account for much of what you refer to as new.

I also keep writing. I've almost finished the rough draft of a new book on the King assassination. I mean new information and on King nor Ray.

I think that what you refer tos as Hinckle's new book is not new here. I didn't buy it but the excerpting and collateral puff ~~pieces~~ pieces are quite dishonesty.

Lil is tired but okay. She'll get to rest some after the 16th, which marks the end of her/our only regular work. She manages a Bloch tax office. She works there and at home pretty constantly and for very long hours during that season.

I still have an interest in the building on the Plaza de la Reforma that holds an office of the Banco Internacional. Are there such things as city directories and xeroxes there and if so could you xerox the listing for that building for the period beginning with the bookx that has 1969 and going through 1973 (or 1974 if there they did what is now done here, bring them out every other year)? If there is no such thing (libraries here have them) are there files of old phone books going back that far?

The to me more beautiful time of the year is starting. We have flowers in bloom, if we also have an occasional frost. Little snow this past winter. We had an exceptionally warm February, which probably hurried things. The dogwoods are swelling to burst prolifically, the fruit have bloomed or are beginning to, the forsythia is about past, and spring is about here. Officially it has been. The grass is already green and in need of cutting....We hope your life is good and that it stays that way. Best,